

## City of Concord Recreation and Park Advisory Committee

### Meeting Minutes from September 21, 2007 Held at COMF

Attendance:

**Committee Members:** Janet Schofield, Mary Miller, Bruce Alleyne, Liz Odell, Chiara Dolcino, John Mercier, Bill Haubrich and Andrea Goldberg.

**Staff Members:**

David Gill – Recreation Department, Chip Chesley – General Services, and Doug Woodward – Community Development

Meeting called to order by Andrea Goldberg at 5 pm

Andrea introduced Concord High School Athletic Director Bill Haubrich.

**Dog Park Update:** There was no written report from Groundwork Concord regarding possible minor location change in Terrill Park. Liz gave a financial update on the fundraising effort for the proposed new dog park at Terrill Park. The group has received donations of slightly over \$11,000. Several members ask what the fundraising goal of the group is. Liz thought it was around \$18,000. Andrea asked was the City ready to proceed with this project when the group reaches \$18,000. Staff members present did not know the answer. Phil Bilodeau is coordinating this from GSD.

**Heights Community Center Project.**

David explained the process of selecting committee members for Phase 2 of the project. The Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee will need to recommend names directly to the Mayor for appointment. Mary mentioned she thought Candace had sent names to the Mayor in the spring. David thought she had sent names to Community Development for review however not to the Mayor. **9-26-06 Follow up:** *The Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee can appoint the Phase two committee. The names do not need to be approved by the City Manager or City Council. This will be added to the October meeting for discussion.*

Chiara has had several conversations with Board Members of the Senior Center regarding the possibility of a partnership with the City and they seem open to the idea. The Senior Center is selling the building and will close their doors in December. She thought the building could meet many needs of the community center, however several spaces might need to be remodeled, a gym added and there is a great basement area that could be a great teen area. She also mentioned the need to conduct an energy audit. Chiara mentioned that she was not aware of any interest from the City in buying the building however she hoped we could “think out of the box” regarding this possible partnership which may or may not include the current building. Several members asked about a possibility of taking a tour of the building. Chiara will try to set up a tour next week, once scheduled. **Tour of the Centennial Senior Center this Thursday (9/28) at 5 pm.** It shouldn't take more than 1/2 hour to 45 minutes. To get to the Centennial, folks can either use the Regional Drive entrance (close to Airport Road) or the Pembroke Road entrance. There's parking in both locations. Driving directions (and more information) can be found on the Center's website at <http://www.centennialseniorcenter.com/about/clocation.html>

**Current CIP projects for FY 07 – Report from Community Development Department**

David passed out report from CDD regarding Capitol Projects Update.

Chiara asked if we could have estimated time line and how much does each project currently has. Doug explained until the RQE comes back and awarded the time line would not be known.

Janet questioned the docks at the Everett Arena and what is going on with them. Doug reviewed the History of the docks and thought DES and the Commission on Handicapped signed off on the permit. Chip mentioned he will have to check on the status of the docks as he is unaware of them all permit items being addressed. Chip will follow up.

Liz asked about the study GSD will be conducting with the Concord School District regarding Memorial Field. Chip explained the study will look at existing use and condition of the Memorial Field complex. John asked will this include looking at an artificial turf field? Both Bill and Chip said that might be one of the recommendations. Chip mentioned this study will look at all facilities at the complex...bleachers, all fields, lights etc

### **Recreation Department upcoming programs**

David passed out the new winter brochure, which will be distributed to area school the next week. David reviewed upcoming volunteer opportunities (Halloween Howl, Coffee Houses and basketball coaches). Registration for fall/winter programs will begin as soon as the brochures are delivered – by 9/27/06

### **City/School Cooperative Use Agreement**

David passed out copies of the current agreement and briefly reviewed the agreement. Several members asked how it is working. Bill, Chip and David agreed it was a living document and for the most part works. David explained there is a joint City/School Committee that meets at least twice a year to review and discuss any upcoming projects and uses. One meeting is held in the spring to review fall sports and one in the fall to look at the spring sports. Committee members agreed to read the document and will discuss again at the October meeting. Chiara asked if we had similar agreements with Bishop Brady and Merrimack Valley School District. Staff was not aware of other agreements, David will follow up.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. John mentioned he had a short conversation with St Paul's School regarding the possible use of the lake for a fishing derby. They did have several questions regarding use, type of equipment to be used, and what will the money be used for. John asked Chip and Doug about their thoughts. Chip said that GSD is not interested in proceeding with this project.
2. Liz updated members on the Dog Park. See Dog Park above

Meeting adjured at 6:00 pm

Respectfully submitted by;

David Gill  
Recreation Supervisor